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A process for producing foamed polyisocyanate polyaddition products or polyurethane elastomers by reacting isocyanates with compounds which are reactive toward isocyanates in the presence of catalysts, blowing agents, additives and/or auxiliaries, wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of (ii) at least one organic or inorganic acid anhydride.

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A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the acid anhydrides (ii) are used in an amount of from 0.01 to 20% by weight, based on the total weight of the acid anhydrides and the isocyanates used.

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A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a mixture comprising

 (i) at least one isocyanate and (ii) at least one organic
 and/or inorganic acid anhydride is used.

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- 4. A polyisocyanate polyaddition product obtainable by a process as claimed in claim Λ
- 25 5. The use of acid anhydrides in polyisocyanate polyaddition products for stabilizing the polyisocyanate polyaddition products, in particular polyurethanes, against cleavage of the urethane and/or urea bond.

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30 6. The use of acid anhydrides in polyisocyanate polyaddition products for reacting with amino groups in the polyisocyanate polyaddition products.

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